MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

10 JUNE 1982

Israeli Invasion of Lebanon

U.S. Cease-Fire Demand -- U.S. President Ronald Reagan sent an urgent message to Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin "demanding" that Israel immediately cease fire in Lebanon, Jerusalem radio reported. The radio speculated that the U.S. move resulted from contacts between Reagan and Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev.

Military Situation -- The Israeli Air Force attacked and destroyed Syria's SAM system in the Al-Biqa' Valley during the afternoon of 9 June, the IDF spokesman announced in a statement reported by IDF radio. All Israeli planes returned safely to base, he said, while 22 Syrian MiG's were shot down and 7 others were hit. However, the Syrian military spokesman, in statements broadcast by Damascus radio, said 19 Israeli F-15's and F-16's and 16 Syrian MiG's were downed in the course of two Israeli attacks on the missiles. In the first attack 62 Syrian planes confronted 26 Israeli raiders; in the second raid 54 Syrian aircraft intercepted 92 Israeli planes. Citing a Syrian military official, Monte Carlo radio said the first Israeli attack failed to score direct hits but that the Israelis' second attempt was successful. However, the radio said, the Syrians immediately replaced their losses, which Jerusalem television reported as 19 destroyed batteries.

The Israeli Air Force also strafed a Damascus housing complex, killing 8 citizens and wounding 47, Damascus radio reported. The IDF spokesman denied that any Israeli aircraft had attacked Damascus or had entered Syrian airspace, according to Jerusalem television. AFP said the attack came from a single bomb dropped by an Israeli plane being pursued by Syrian fighters after the engagement over Al-Biqa'. According to Damascus radio, Israeli aircraft strafed passenger cars at the Syrian-Lebanese border early on 10 June, killing 57 persons and wounding 75.

In another action the Syrians claimed to have knocked out 2 Israeli aircraft and 23 tanks, and to have prevented an Israeli advance near Bayt ad-Din, according to statements carried by Damascus radio and television. Beirut radio said Syrian and Israeli forces engaged in a fierce battle around 'Ayn Zhalta to the south of the Beirut-Damascus highway. Jerusalem television cited a report by foreign sources that IDF units were moving on the highway. Meanwhile, the Syrians called up reservists and sent a Palestinian Liberation Army brigade into Lebanon, according to AFP and Voice of Lebanon radio. The latter source also reported Syrian withdrawals from western and southern Beirut, where Israeli planes continued to pound Palestinian and Syrian positions early on 10 June. The Israelis were bombarding Beirut International Airport, the Burj al-Barajinah refugee camp, Khaldah, An-Na'imah and Ad-Damur, according to a Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces statement broadcast by the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio on 10 June. IDF radio said Israeli planes bombed the PLO headquarters in Beirut on 10 June.

South of the capital, the IDF captured Ad-Damur on 9 June and invited the town's former Christian inhabitants to return to their homes when the fighting is over, according to an announcement by the IDF spokesman broadcast by IDF radio. However, the joint forces spokesman said fighting was still continuing in Ad-Damur, where an Israeli plane had been downed, and that joint forces foiled an Israeli landing near Khaldah, destroying six tanks and capturing two, according to statements broadcast by the Voice of Palestine and Beirut radio. On the other hand, the Voice of Lebanon said Israeli tanks had reached Khaldah and An-Na'imah. However, Beirut radio said Syrian tanks and not Israeli tanks had entered Khaldah during the afternoon. The Voice of Palestine also reported that an Israeli landing at Beirut airport early on 10 June was foiled.

Israeli losses over the past day amounted to 8 dead, 4 missing and 164 wounded, according to an IDF announcement broadcast by Jerusalem television early on 10 June.

Sharon Remarks -- Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon, in a news conference carried by Jerusalem radio, called the destruction of the Syrian missile system in Lebanon the "turning point" of the war. While stressing that Israel has no intention of entering into a war with Syria, Sharon maintained that Israel was forced to attack the missiles and deal with the eastern side of Lebanon because of the entry of more Syrians into the field and the enlargement of the area in which they had missiles.

Al-Asad Contacts; Correspondence -- During a telephone call to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, Saudi Crown Prince Fahd declared that Saudi Arabia's full resources will be placed at the service of Syria, Damascus television reported. He stressed that Saudi Arabia will meet all Syrian needs. Al-Asad also received a phone call from Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid who stated that Algeria is backing Syria with all of its capabilities, the television noted in another report. According to Damascus radio, the Syrian president met with an Iranian military delegation that included the minister of defense and the commanders of the ground forces and Guards Corps. The radio said they discussed the implementation of the Iranian decision to send volunteers to confront the Israelis. The delegation informed Al-Asad that Iran has decided to allocate a special budget for this operation.

Meanwhile, Damascus television reported without elaboration that Al-Asad received a written message from Soviet leaders.

Habib Mission -- U.S. envoy Philip Habib outlined U.S. concepts on what can be done to address the current situation and also conveyed a message from President Reagan during a meeting with President al-Asad, according to Damascus radio reports. The radio said Al-Asad reiterated Syria's stand on preserving Lebanon's regional security.

Arab Initiatives -- Jordan's King Husayn arrived in Baghdad where he met with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, Amman radio reported. The two leaders reviewed the critical situation in the Arab region in light of the Israeli invasion and underlined the need for building up a unified Arab stand, according to a later radio report.

Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi has called for a meeting of Arab chiefs of staff in Tunis on 10 June to discuss drawing up a strategic Arab plan to defend southern Lebanon, INA reported.

According to Cairo radio, Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Usamah al-Baz will leave for Washington on 11 June to hold talks with U.S. officials on the Lebanese situation. It added that Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali will visit Washington on 13 June to convey a message from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak to President Reagan.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

In a statement broadcast by INA, the Revolution Command Council announced Iraq's readiness to observe a cease-fire and end all armed hostilities upon Iran's immediate agreement. According to the statement, Iraq declared its immediate readiness to withdraw its forces from all Iranian towns and territories where they are now stationed. It added that the withdrawal could be completed in 2 weeks or less. The statement said if agreement cannot be reached on the issues under dispute through the commissions mediating between the two sides, Iraq is prepared to accept a binding arbitration decision by an emergency session of the Islamic Conference; if Iran rejects Islamic Conference arbitration, then Iraq would accept binding arbitration by the Nonaligned Movement or the UN Security Council. The statement said Iraq is calling for the cease-fire out of its belief in the great necessity to devote all resources and efforts to confronting the Israeli invasion.

A 10 June IRNA commentary said the Iraqi cease-fire offer was too late. The "Ba'thist-Zionist Iraqi rulers" should have given a positive response to Iran's peace conditions before the Zionist invasion of Lebanon, which was merely aimed to save Saddam Husayn from his imminent overthrow, IRNA said.

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PANJSHER HEALTH CLINIC BACK IN OPERATION

LD092144 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1730 GMT 9 Jun 82

[Text] The health clinic in Panjsher District, which was destroyed by traitors to the homeland, to the people and to the revolution, has been reactivated and put into service.

A spokesman for the Panjsher District said: With the reactivation of the Panjsher District health clinic the health problems of the people of the Onab and (Zaman Koh) villages can be attended to. The spokesman added: The noble and toiling people of these villages expressed gratitude for the good deeds of the party and government, and once again declared their complete solidarity with their revolutionary party and government which are the guarantors of the prosperity and well-being of the people.

REBEL GROUPS 'CRUSHED' IN HERAT PROVINCE

LD051720 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 5 Jun 82

[Text] A group of 175 counterrevolutionaries -- these enemies of the homeland, people and revolution -- who for some time now have been annoying and harassing the noble people of Golran District, Herat Province, have recently been crushed together with their ringleaders, Khoda-Dad and Mohammad Ayub, by the security forces and revolution defense groups with the cooperation of the working people of this district.

A security source in Herat Province said that an assortment of weapons, including a large-caliber machinegun, a large quantity of bullets and antitank mines, were seized by the security forces from these enemies of the homeland and revolution [words indistinct].

According to another report, a separate group of these sold-out bands in the region of (Faja-Qala and Besabat), Herat Province, were crushed by party activists. A number of weapons and documents which prove their links with groups (?abroad) were seized by the security forces.

KABUL: PASHTUN LEADERS SPEAK ON RIGHTS

GF091834 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 9 Jun 82

[Text] According to a report by the Rawalpindi-based JANG newspaper, Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, outstanding and foremost leader of the Pashtuns, has called on the Pashtuns to unite and struggle to attain their rights. A few days ago Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan delivered a speech at a dinner held in his honor in his village near Peshawar, in which he urged the Pashtuns to work to successfully overcome their present critical situation.

The Pakistani newspaper adds that Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan's son delivered a speech at the same party, in which he said that the Pashtuns today are deprived of the rights which they enjoyed during the odious British colonialism. This means that the Pakistani people at present do not have the right to live and are deprived of their human rights.

Khan Abdul Wali Khan accused Gen Ziaul Haq of using Islam for his personal interest and called on the army generals to throw away the medals granted to them by British colonialism before they speak in the name of Islam. He also accused Pakistan's military rulers of trying to hatch intrigues among the Muslim Pashtun.

GANDHI MESSAGE TO 'ARAFAT REITERATES SUPPORT

BK090851 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 9 Jun 82

[Text] The prime minister has reiterated the support of the government and the people of India to the brave struggle of the Palestinian people. In a message to the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, Yasir 'Arafat, Mrs Gandhi said the heroic Palestinian people are facing yet another brutal attacks from Israel. The magnitude of the land, air and sea incursion testifies to long planning and deliberate intentions of the aggressor.

Mrs Gandhi said this latest attack by Israel poses a serious threat to the entire region. India, she said, is deeply concerned at the development.

EXPRESS HAILS RESUMPTION OF TALKS WITH PAKISTAN

BK081644 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 3 Jun 82 p 6

[Editorial: "All to the Good"]

[Text] The decision to resume India-Pakistan talks will be widely welcomed. The joint announcement came soon after the prime minister's letter to President Ziaul Haq, and Mr Natwar Singh's meetings with Pakistani leaders in Islamabad. Obviously, Mrs Gandhi's message helped clear the last hurdle in getting on with the talks. It is pointless now to find fault with either side for the sudden setback in negotiations after the positive outcome of the foreign ministers' meeting in Delhi last February. The important thing is that both governments have realised the need to pick up the threads and to forget the mutual irritations they believed they suffered.

The formal incorporation of Hunza, Skardu and Gilgit into Pakistan necessitated a technical protest from India. But if Pakistan's purpose is to absorb POK [Pakistan-occupied Kashmir] in demonstration of its acceptance of the actual reality that the line of control has come to represent a more or less firm international boundary, then it is all to the good. Indeed, this could set the stage for exploration of a final Kashmir settlement for which the internal and external environment in both countries is more favourable than ever before.

The crux of the matter is to clear the mutual suspicions that bedevil Indo-Pakistan relations. Without a measure of trust, neither a no-war pact nor a friendship treaty will be of any avail. All the same, there is no reason to shy away from a fresh attempt to improve upon and move beyond the Simla pact. It would be unfortunate if such efforts are baulked by semantic quibbling over the relative importance and precedence of a no-war treaty or a friendship pact. And why should talks on arms limitation be excluded? India may well claim that a friendship treaty must imply commitment not to fire a gun in anger, but that "no-war" does not necessarily mean friendship. These concepts, however, are not mutually exclusive. The joint commission proposed can go into all these and other issues. The peoples of both countries yearn for peace and friendship. This is the single most important truth that neither government can afford to forget.

HERALD: U.S. AID TO PARTIES DIRECT INTERFERENCE

BK091247 Delhi NATIONAL HERALD in English 4 Jun 82 p 7

[Editorial: "Dollar Democracy"]

[Text] The American CIA has the dubious reputation of organising coups and coutercoups to destabilise even democratic governments the Pentagon does not relish. Chile was one such example where the victim was President Allende.

The Reagan administration is now going one step further. It proposes to directly finance political parties, newspapers and labour unions in poor countries to "promote democracy abroad". In plain terms, it means the USA wants to control the reins of power within developing countries by floating its own brand of dollar-fed candidates. We know how the USA props up military regimes in the name of democracy. Its new sugar-coated move amounts to direct interference in the affairs of other countries and hence it is both immoral and antidemocratic. How will the Americans take it if the socialist bloc were to extend "political aid" to various groups, newspapers and labour unions in the USA to promote its own version of democracy there?

Democracies in the Third World cannot be floated with the help of dollars and sophisticated weapons. Basically it is a question of political culture that has to be indigenously evolved and indigenously nurtured. It is indeed paradoxical that whereas the USA has maintained hostile postures to well-established democratic regimes like India, it should think of directly financing parties, newspapers and labour unions to promote democracy in the Third World. Apparently the USA wants to create conditions for political instability so as to enable it to install puppet regimes and create lobbies to serve its politico-military interests. This was surely not the idea of democracy of the founding fathers of the American nation.

The trouble with the Pentagon-controlled American system is that it has not only lost its traditional moorings but also a sense of direction. The whole scenario is disturbing. The Reagan administration does not even offer legitimate concessions to developing countries in trade and aid where they are needed most. Be that as it may Third World nations are not the plaything of American politics. They are the masters of their destiny and can take care of their democratic institutions without having to depend on American doles.

MITTERRAND VERSAILLES ADDRESS WELCOMED

BK061416 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 6 Jun 82

[Text] India today called for immediate resumption of global negotiations to bring about the much needed new international economic order. Welcoming French President Mitterrand's address to the world's seven major industrialized nations at Versailles yesterday, an official spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry said in New Delhi the problems of human society in different parts of the globe are interlinked and must be resolved in a global perspective. He said the Group of 77 in the United Nations has recently made a significant proposal in this regard.

In a statement, the spokesman said that President Mitterrand's call for cooperation among nations to halt the spread of economic isolationism deserves serious attention by industrially advanced countries as protectionist tendencies have had disastrous effects on the economic activities in developing countries.

Of special interest to us in India is the French president's marked emphasis on the accelerated transfer of the latest technologies to the developing countries for the industrialization and for vastly enhanced production of energy and food. During Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi's visit to France in November last, Mitterrand and Mrs Gandhi had decided with similar purposes in mind to set up an Indo-French institute of higher scientific learning in India.

The spokesman said that a new international information and communications order is of equal importance to mankind's future and the French suggestion for a possible charter of communication merits respect and attention. India has given constant support in UNESCO and elsewhere to all endeavors to bring about a new international information and communications order.

The spokesman added that India shares President Mitterrand's desire to ensure the fair distribution of the resources of the seabed among the nations of the world.

PROTOCOL SIGNED IN MOSCOW ON COOPERATION IN OIL

BK070332 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 7 Jun 82

[Text] The Soviet Union is to help India in upgrading technology to raise oil production from the sick wells of Gujarat. The Soviet side will also join in seismic survey and drilling operations in West Bengal. A protocol on cooperation in the fields was signed in Moscow yesterday. The accord was signed by Petroleum Minister Shiv Shankar and Soviet Petroleum Minister Maltsev. The two countries will also exchange geoscientists and engineers to speed up exploration of the oilfields in India.

INDIAN RAILWAY DELEGATION VISITS CHINA

BK061506 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 6 Jun 82

[Text] A seven-member Indian railway delegation is now in China to explore possibilities of cooperation between the two countries. The visit is a followup of the Indo-China official-level talks held in India last month. Delegation leader Chairman of the Indian Railways Board Mohinder Singh Gujral, in a Beijing interview with the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA correspondent there, said one possible area of cooperation could be passenger coaches which Chinese railways were importing from abroad. Another area of cooperation could be in the field of signalling and telecommunication equipment.

19 KILLED IN 9 JUNE BOMB EXPLOSION IN ASSAM

BK100256 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 10 Jun 82

[Text] In Gauhati, 19 people were killed and 38 injured in an explosion in the crowded (Fatehsil Ambari) market last night. The injured have been admitted to the Gauhati medical college hospital.

The police say that an explosive device believed to be a bomb was found in an abandoned bag in the market. It went off when an inquisitive crowd gathered around it to see the bag. High police officials immediately rushed to the spot. The area has been cordoned off.

The chief secretary told the All-India Radio Gauhati correspondent that vigorous investigations are in progress.

ORDER BANS STRIKES IN ASSAM ESSENTIAL SERVICES

BK050653 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 5 Jun 82

[Text] In Assam, strikes in a number of essential services have been prohibited. An order to this effect covers postal and telegraph services, telephones, railways and those connected with the maintenance of aerodromes and aircraft. The order issued under the Essential Services Maintenance Act also covers services connected with the armed forces, establishments and installations related to defense and industrial undertakings. It also covers institutions engaged in procurement, storage, supply or distribution of food grains. Water, hospitals, bank services, oilfields and refineries also come under the purview of the order.

HAQ GIVES NEWS CONFERENCE ON RETURN FROM JIDDA

BK100357 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 9 Jun 82

[Text] President Ziaul Haq has described the latest Israeli barbarism against Lebanon as murder and plunder in broad daylight in which innocent Lebanese and Palestinians are being killed. On his arrival in Islamabad from Jidda this afternoon, he told a news conference at the airport that the Islamic peace committee held an emergency session in Mecca to consider the situation arising out of the Israeli wanton attack on Lebanon. The committee urged the UN Security Council to impose sanctions on Israel in fulfillment of its responsibility in accordance with the UN Charter.

In reply to a question, the president said that the entire Pakistani nation supported the Palestinian cause and the people and the Government of Pakistan are wholeheartedly behind the Palestinian people. The problem of Palestine has come into being as a result of a grave injustice in human history. He said that the people of Pakistan have been fully supporting their Palestinian brethren since both before and after gaining independence.

The president made a specific reference to the critical situation which the Islamic community was facing. He made an impassioned appeal to both Iran and Iraq to end their conflict in the name of Islam and the unity of Muslim world. Every Muslim is weeping over the conflict between two fraternal Muslim countries, which can cause severe damage. He appealed to both Iran and Iraq to cooperate in the Islamic peace committee's efforts to find ways for conciliation between the two countries. The president said that the committee members expressed grave concern over the Iran-Iraq war and pointed out that if the conflict did not end, it might engulf the entire Muslim world. The members of the committee also expressed the opinion that the enemies of Islam were taking advantage of the conflict between the two countries which had relegated their common problems -- such as foreign intervention in Afghanistan and the Israeli aggression in Lebanon -- into the background.

The president said the Islamic peace committee has renewed the mandate of President Sekou Toure of Guinea and the Islamic Conference Organization Secretary General Habib Chatti to continue to seek a solution to the dispute and maintain close contacts with Iran and Iraq so that ways can be found to pursue conciliation between them. The president said that every Muslim expected that in view of Israel's repeated aggression against the Palestinians and its sacrilege in holy places, both Iran and Iraq should fulfill their religious duty and cooperate in the efforts of the Islamic community's peace committee.

In reply to a question about Afghanistan, the president said that Pakistan was going to attend talks in Geneva with a spirit of finding a political solution to the problem. He expressed optimism over the outcome of the talks and said, if nothing else, at least a dialogue has been initiated under the auspices of the United Nations.

In reply to another question, the president pointed out that the guidelines which were drawn up by the UN Secretary General's personal representative at the time of his visit to Pakistan, Iran and Afghanistan included the four principles outlined by Pakistan.

The principles are: The withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan; the maintenance of the nonaligned and Islamic status of Afghanistan; the return of Afghan refugees to their homes with honor and safety; and the opportunity for the people of Afghanistan to choose their own form of government.

In reply to a question, the president said that Pakistan has agreed to enter into negotiations with a representative of the ruling political party in Afghanistan to find a political solution to the Afghanistan problem. He said the only feasible solution to this problem would be one which was acceptable to the people of Afghanistan and not one which was in accordance with the wishes of others.

In reply to a question about Indian Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi's recent letter, the president said that the letter was very encouraging and that it was a step in the right direction leading to not only normalizing relations but to improving relations between India and Pakistan.

YAQUB KHAN HOLDS TALKS WITH PEREZ DE CUELLAR

BK080453 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 8 Jun 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan had talks with UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar in New York yesterday on Afghanistan, the Iran-Iraq war and the fresh Israeli aggression against Lebanon. The foreign minister told him that the Pakistan Government respected his role as personal representative of the former secretary general on Afghanistan and his current efforts to find a political solution to the Afghanistan crisis.

He told the secretary general that he was awaiting the forthcoming indirect talks on Afghanistan in Geneva under the good offices of Cordovez. He said that the Geneva talks would be an important step for UN efforts to resolve the Afghanistan problem.

The foreign minister and the secretary general also exchanged views on the Gulf war and its effects on the peace and security of the region. They also discussed the fresh Israeli aggression against Lebanon.

Yaqub Khan apprised the secretary general of the efforts being made by Pakistan to improve relations with India. He said that Pakistan had received a positive response from Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi which showed the Indian Government was ready to resume talks which were suspended at the beginning of this year.

BRIEFS

WORLD BANK LOAN -- The World Bank and the IDA have agreed to loan Pakistan $147 million to help implement its economic development program. The projects included under the program relate to setting up an effective planning machinery, implementation of new national agriculture policy, speedy development of country's oil and natural gas resources and industrial infrastructure. [Text] [Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 4 Jun 82 BK]

JAPANESE GRANTS -- Japan has agreed to provide a total of 3.6 billion yen, equalling $15.87 million, to Pakistan under three grants for road construction, construction of a bridge over the River Indus and malaria eradication program. Notes to this effect were exchanged between Japan and Pakistan in Islamabad on 5 June. Under the first agreement, $8.67 million will be provided to the frontier works organization for the purchase of road construction equipment, for improvement of roads in the Northwest Frontier Province, Baluchistan and other provinces. The second grant provides about $5 million for importing machineries for the construction of Darya Khan-Dera Ismail Khan bridge. The third grant of $2.17 million will be made available for controlling malaria in different parts of the country. [Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 5 Jun 82 BK]

IRNA: IRAQI CEASE-FIRE OFFER 'TOO LATE'

LD101004 Tehran IRNA in English 0930 GMT 10 Jun 82

["Baghdad's False Allegations" -- IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, June 10, IRNA -- Baghdad Government announced Wednesday night that it was prepared for a truce of war and was ready to evacuate its forces from parts of the Iranian territory to provide preliminaries for a ceasefire. The so-called Iraqi Command Council stressed in a statement that Iraq was ready to withdraw its forces from the ruined cities of Qasr-e Shirin and Khosrow and to stop its hostilities against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The request is being made only one week after a meeting between the Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and the Zionist Prime Minister Menahem Begin during which the two sides agreed on a coordinated policy to spport the Iraqi regime and to stop further spread of the Islamic revolution. To implement this policy, on the U.S. instructions carried out by the Zionist lackeys, hundreds of Muslim civilians in southern Lebanon and a great number of militant Palestinian and Syrian brethren were martyred in the Zionist invasion against southern Lebanon last week. Several Muslim populated cities of Lebanon also became target of the Zionist aggression as part of the implementation of the vicious plot of reactionaries in the region to rescue Saddam and the Ba'thist government in Iraq.

Political observers believe that the Zionist invasion against southern Lebanon was merely aimed to save Saddam from his imminent overthrow, and this time Muslims in southern Lebanon as well as Palestinian and Syrian brethren should tolerate this imposed war only designed to revive Baghdad's unstable dictatorship.

What was included in the Baghdad statement on Wednesday night was in fact one of the conditions already set by the Islamic Republic of Iran and was not a new subject. If the Ba'thist-Zionist Iraqi rulers were seeking peace they could achieve it, before the outbreak of a new war in southern Lebanon, by giving a positive response to provisions set by Iran. But it is too late now and in view of the Iranians Saddam, Begin and Mubarak are the main elements of the vicious triangle of imperialism in the region whose common interests would hinder the establishment of peace in the Middle East and the Persian Gulf region.

FURTHER ON VELAYATI NEW YORK PRESS CONFERENCE

LD091900 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 9 Jun 82

[Text] Our country's foreign minister, Mr Velayati, who is in New York in order to take part in the UN disarmament conference, answered questions by reporters at a press conference.

[Begin recording of Voice and Vision correspondent in New York] Today, Brother Velayati, the minister of foreign affairs of our Islamic homeland, took part in a press conference attended by a large number of reporters from international news agencies and answered their questions. At first, the text of a press release was read by Brother Velayati, in which reference was made to three important topics: the recent attack by the regime occupying Jerusalem against southern Lebanon, the imposed war and American interventions, as well Mr Haig's recent remarks.

In part of this statement, while announcing the explicit and consistent Iranian positions -- namely, that it is only through the formation of a united Islamic front and through making use of all the possibilities and forces of the Islamic countries that we can overcome the racist and usurping Zionist regime -- Iran has announced its complete readiness to confront that regime directly on a military, economic and political level.

Referring to the latest statement by Imam Khomeyni on the need for unity among Muslim countries and for making use of all possibilities in order to confront the illegitimate child of American imperialism, Mr Velayati said: The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran cannot see any difference between the interests of America and the regime occupying Jerusalem in the region. It does not regard the Zionist aggression as any different from the aggression of Saddam at-Tikriti against Iran and feels equally concerned about both these aggressions.

In another part of this press statement, the foreign minister of our country referred to the conspiratorial policies of America, manifest in the foreign policies of that country, and to the evil practices of Mr Haig, the foreign minister of that country, and said: The question which we wish to put to Mr Haig is whether he is the guardian of the people of the Middle East and of the Persian Gulf and determines policies for them. He added: Tell Mr Haig that the shah is dead and the other shahs of the region will also follow after him. The people of the Middle East region have woken up because of the revival of Islamic values and they will no longer tolerate mercenaries such as Husni Mubarak, the Jordanian Husayn, the Moroccan Hassan, the Omani Qabus and Saddam at-Tikriti. You should learn a lesson from the fates of the shah and As-Sadat.

Brother Velayati then replied to numerous questions from reporters, In answer to a question about the rumor concerning the sale of arms by Israel to Islamic Iran, he said: Mr Sharon has claimed that he has given about $27 million in military assistance to Iran. Everyone knows that one cannot buy more than one or two tanks for $27 million dollars. Our fronts with the Arabs are 700-km long and 50-km deep and this war has been going on for about 20 months. According to preliminary estimates, this war has caused about $150-billion worth of damage to our country. You know that, according to the figures which have been published, the reactionary Arab countries have given $30 billion of assistance to Iraq. According to the figures which we possess, this figure exceeds $50 billion.

In order to confront such a great power with such huge financial backing we needed a great deal of weapons and a large military budget; and the figure of $27 million mentioned by Mr Sharon is nothing but an empty claim. Once again, we strongly deny it and we believe that this claim has been made in order to support the reactionary forces in the region and in order to win support for the Camp David and Fahd plans. Every time we scored a great victory they immediately made such claims.

In reply to the question: Have you already declared war against Israel?, the foreign minister of our country said: Yes, we have announced our readiness to start fighting against Israel through the officials in Tehran. Our government even intends to allocate funds.

One of the reporters asked about Iran's readiness to defend the Islamic Republic in case of a sudden Israeli attack. His answer was: It is clear that when we say we are prepared to fight against Israel we mean that we are ready to accept all the probable consequences and outcomes. Naturally, one of the consequences could be an Israeli attack against the Islamic Republic of Iran. We will be completely prepared for an engagement with Israel at any price.

In response to another question about sending troops to support Syria against Israel, Brother Velayati said: We regard it as one of our basic duties and it has been one of the strategic goals of the Islamic revolution to fight against Israel. At the moment, the minister of defense, the commander of the ground forces, the commander of the Guards Corps and our president's special envoy are in Syria in order to evaluate the level of the assistance required and the nature of the assistance. They are busy studying the assistance required by Syria, by the Palestinian fighters and by the Lebanese fighters. If our brothers in Syria, Palestine and Lebanon ask us we shall show no hesitation and we shall join the war. [end recording]

MUSAVI VIEWS ISRAELI 'ATTACK' ON LEBANON

LD091432 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 Jun 82

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, at noon today Prime Minister Musavi took part in a press conference attended by local reporters and answered their questions regarding various issues.

In answer to our correspondent's question on the stance of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran regarding the Zionist regime's attack on southern Lebanon, as well as on the outcome of our country's military-political delegation's visit to Syria, the prime minister said: Our nation's stance vis-a-vis the repeated Zionist aggressions against the Islamic world has been clear for a long time, particularly during the past 20 years. Imam Khomeyni has been a pioneer in every move against the Zionist regime and has made its nature clear. The recent aggression is also a link in the chain of expansionist plots and designs by Zionism and imperialism against Muslim nations. This will not be the last link either, unless Muslim nations come to their senses, take a firm stand against these aggressions and strike effective blows to this regime through their unity.

He said: Our revolution achieved victory with the slogan victory to Al-Quds. In our perception of the world and the Muslim nations, Palestine is a part of our Islamic homeland and there is no difference between Khuninshahr and southern Lebanon. The prime minister added: Just as we feel angry over this [Khuninshahr] we shall confront the aggression there [southern Lebanon]. Of course, realities have changed: With its revolution, our country is in a position to confront Israel more rapidly and clearly. Our national manifested its determination against Israel right from the start of the revolution.

The prime minister said: The Supreme Defense Council has made certain decisions so that it can approach this matter seriously. A political-military delegation has gone to Syria in this connection. Today the Cabinet unanimously approved a budget for this, to be sent to the Majlis as a supplementary budget covering the year ending 20 March 1983.

Regarding the decision of the recent Nonaligned Foreign Ministers Conference to convene the forthcoming conference in Baghdad, the prime minister said: As things stand now the conference is doomed to failure, for if the conference were to be held in Baghdad it would be contrary to the organization's commitment to nonalignment. We see many indications that the conference will not be convened in Baghdad, and even if it is convened there it will not be complete, which is worse than not convening it at all. He said: The war in the region, the insecurity the conference would experience and the problem of Saddam being conference chairman would all create a kind of ludicrous and illogical situation. In my view, if the conference were convened in Baghdad it would be tantamount to a coup de grace to the Nonaligned Movement and the conference would never be able to restore the respect it would lose.

On Islamic art, the prime minister said: Our revolution is more cultural than Islamic. Using [word indistinct] artistic methods will be inadequate. For this reason, the counterrevolution always exploits art to achieve what it fails to achieve through other means. He said: We have observed arrangements and seminars, indicating that a kind of cultural-artistic consciousness has come about and that we have achieved a certain amount of growth which indicates our creativity. However, our development has reached a level that can compensate for shortcomings. Sometimes certain publications are distributed by discredited intellectuals, indicating that they nurture satanic dreams in their defective minds and imagine they can pass them on to others.

Regarding the connection between the Zionists' attacks against southern Lebanon and the Islamic combatants' victory in Khorramshahr, the prime minister said: From their own viewpoint the attacks are taking place at an opportune moment.

For example, Egypt has been ensnared in the Camp David trap and cannot move. It has turned into a country under imperialist and Zionist domination. Similarly, Morocco and other reactionary states are concluding agreements with and putting bases at the disposal of America. Meanwhile, there is the Iran-Iraq war and the propaganda noises that Iran is a greater danger than Israel to the Arabs. All this created a golden opportunity for Israel to attack southern Lebanon. I think the new situation created by this aggression will drive the nations and governments dependent on imperialism further apart, for this attack further exposes America and Israel, reveals the hands of those who only pay lip service to struggle against Israel, clarifies the truth to the nations and makes these nations realize that the solution lies in reverting to their pure nature and dear Islam.

RAFSANJANI ON IRANIAN AID TO PLO, SYRIA

LD091740 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 9 Jun 82

[Excerpts] Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Majlis, discussed with an IRNA correspondent the aggression against Lebanon by the occupying regime in Jerusalem, and the dispatch of a delegation by Iran to Syria for coordination with Syrian and PLO officials in countering the Zionist regime's aggression against southern Lebanon.

The Majlis speaker said that we need to plan in order to coordinate between the forces which will be dispatched to Lebanon and those Palestinian and Syrian forces stationed in Lebanon. Our forces will soon be present at the front and we will be sending as much as is required.

Commenting on the link between the occupying regime's aggression against southern Lebanon and U.S. imperialism, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: This is so apparent that Israel itself has confirmed it and we have no doubt that what is going on at the moment in Lebanon is a design launched with the cooperation of the United States, its associates in the West and with the prior agreement of the reactionaries in the region.

What is very important and we have to bear in mind is the fact that the Arab and Islamic countries can stop this aggression very quickly. But so far, they have not done anything. If countries such as Saudi Arabia and Kuwait were to declare that they would not export oil until the withdrawal of the Israel forces from Lebanon, the United States would no longer allow this regime to continue its aggression.

IRANIAN ENVOY TO TURKEY ON TROOPS FOR LEBANON

TA081833 Ankara ANATOLIA in English 1540 GMT 8 Jun 82

[Text] Istanbul, 8 Jun (AA) -- Iranian Ambassador to Ankara Mohammad Ganjidost confirmed his government was preparing a unit of revolutionary guards to help fight against Israel.

A special representative of the president and commanders had gone to Syria to discuss concerted action against the Israeli occupation in Lebanon, he said in Istanbul.

He charged the leaders of certain Muslim countries with collaborating with the United States, and charged the United States in turn with inciting Israel against Lebanon.

Ambassador Mohammad Ganjidost said economic relations between Turkey and Iran were progressing, and that Iran preferred to import from Turkey and other Islamic countries even though their products might be more expensive than their European counterparts.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE NO 939

LD091736 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 9 Jun 82

[Communique No 939 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Loyal to their sacred covenant, Islam's combatants, more steadfast than ever, are fighting on the battlefronts of good against evil toward the achievement of their great mission. The mighty hand of Almighty God is at all times supporting these self-sacrificing forces on the path of Islam and of the Islamic homeland and is granting them worthy successes along the path of final victory over the troops of Satan.

During the past 24 hours, exchanges of fire continued on most battlefronts and in each of the operational zones losses and casualties were inflicted on the enemy.

In the southern regions, our forces, while defending the areas under their control and maintaining firepower superiority, pounded enemy positions in the (Ra's al-Bishan) region and inflicted losses on the Iraqi forces. Also, thanks to fire by our combatant units on enemy positions on the other side of the Arvand Rud digging in by the Iraqi forces was prevented.

Yesterday an exchange of fire continued on all the fronts in the western parts of the country. Our zealous tribal warriors on the Gilan-e Gharb and Sar-e Pol-e Zahab axes continued their efforts to crush the enemy in those areas under their control and by carrying out patrol and ambush operations dealt effective blows at the enemy.

Thanks to artillery fire by the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran one enemy motor pool in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region was set ablaze and in the Sumar, Meymak and Salehabad regions our combatant forces destroyed several enemy vehicles and a number of trenches. Also two tanks of the aggressors in these regions were destroyed and another three enemy tanks and one antiaircraft gun were damaged. A number of Iraqi servicemen were either killed or wounded.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

PEYKAR CENTRAL COMMITTEE 'DESTROYED' IN ESFAHAN

GF091022 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 29 May 82 p 14

[Communique issued by the Public Relations Office of the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps -- date not given]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In the name of God, the crusher of the oppressors.

Following the complete destruction of the central organization of the atheistic Peykar organization last February and the complete destruction and annihilation of this U.S. puppet organization in Shiraz and Bandar-e 'Abbas, our brothers succeeded in totally annihilating the said organization's Central Committee in Esfahan. During this grave blow dealt by the children of the Islamic nation against the body of the minigroup, all the organizations of the group were destroyed and the forging equipment of the group fell into the hands of the forces of the Islamic revolution. The majority of the members of the Peykar minigroup, including 45 members of the main organization, were arrested. Esma'il Shamsabadi, alias Mehrdad, the head of the committee and the person in charge of coordination in Esfahan and of forgery and supplies, was annihilated in an armed clash with the brother guards.

Following is a list of the names of a few of the members of the U.S. Peykar organization, for the benefit of the Islamic and revolutionary nation:

1. Karim (Nisi), alias Sa'id, deputy and bodyguard of Mehrdad, the head of the Esfahan committee and the person responsible for the printing department.

2. Farzaneh Soltani, using aliases Maryam Moradi, Tahereh and Fatemeh, a member of the coordination department, in charge of finance, in charge of Dokhtaran textile factory and responsible for the labor department.

3. Morteza Za'eri, using aliases Akbar Khosravi, Hamid Ahmadi and Akbar (Khadri), a member of the coordination department, in charge of the students and schoolchildren department of Peykar and in charge of the promotion committee.

4. Parvaneh Emam, alias Azar, member of the promotion committee.

5. Hoseyn Nistanki, alias Hoseyn, former member of the Esfahan coordiation department and a member of the promotion committee.

6. Mohammad Nikandam, alias Babak, member of the student central committee and promotion committee.

7. Hoseyn Okhovvat, head of the distribution department after Mehrdad and in charge of Peykar's communication department.

It is hoped that the deceived supporters of the minigroup will come to and stop opposing Islam and the Islamic Republic and join the united ranks of the Hezbollahi nation before they are arrested.

REGIME'S 'AGENTS' REPORTEDLY CLASH IN FALAVARJAN

GF091755 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 9 Jun 82

[Text] The agents of Khomeyni's regime attacked each other in Falavarjan, and in the clash several were severely wounded. According to our correspondent in Esfahan, the incident occurred because of disagreement about running the district of Falavarjan. Under the eyes of the local population, the security agents of the regime began by insulting one another and finally ended up in Esfahan hospitals.

A group of the regime's guards has gone to the district from Esfahan and now have the Falavarjan municipality and district governor's office in their control.

CLANDESTINE ON MOJAHEDIN OPERATIONS IN RAMSAR

GF091757 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 9 Jun 82

[Text] Our correspondent in Paris has reported that the office of the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization in the French capital has announced that on 2 June the operational units of the organization attacked 2 of the regime's financial centers in Ramsar and recaptured 1.6 million rials of the money confiscated from the people of Iran. The statement by the organization says that the money was taken from the people of Iran by the Khomeyni regime, and the Mojahedin-e Khalq have taken it back.

Following the attacks, the guards units began moving toward the forests in order to find the hideouts of the Mojahedin. Meanwhile, the Mojahedin, who were waiting in ambush, killed seven of the guards, including their commander, Faraji.

According to our correspondent, the confiscated press of the regime admitted to the attacks by the Mojahedin in Ramsar.

SARBEDARAN GROUP WOUNDS RAMSAR GOVERNOR

GF091756 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 9 Jun 82

[Text] The sarbedaran organization attacked Amir 'Abbas Mofrad, the governor of Ramsar, in front of his house. Mofrad, who is a Hezbollahi, was severely wounded in the attack. The incident occurred in Ramsar last week.

According to our reporter, the Sarbedaran organization, which supports the establishment of a constitutional monarchy in Iran, has warned all the governors and district governors of the antinationalist so-called Islamic regime to resign their posts immediately and to stop acting contrary to the desires of the people. They have said that they will carry out revolutionary executions of all the servants of the Khomeyni regime in municipalities, governors' offices and district governors' offices.

PAKISTANI PETROLEUM MINISTER ARRIVES IN TEHRAN

LD090838 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 9 Jun 82

[Text] According to IRNA, Pakistani Minister of Petroleum and Natural Resources Rao Farman Ali Khan arrived in Tehran last night. He is to attend a conference being held in Tehran this afternoon on the occasion of the international day of the oppressed and attended by the oil ministers of friendly countries.

MONTAZERI: NO VISITORS UNTIL END OF RAMADAN

LD041238 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 4 Jun 82

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, the office of Ayatollah Montazeri has requested the public not to call on Ayatollah Montazeri at his house until the end of the month of Ramadan [Ramadan ends 21 July]. This is because of the beginning of the hot season, the ayatollah's general activities and the fact that his residence is unsuitable for receiving a large number of visitors.

Ayatollah Montazeri's office also points out to those who are in contact or in correspondence with that office on topics concerning government organs and revolutionary foundations that, since the country's current affairs must be dealt with through the legal channels, that office will not issue any recommendation or intervene in the country's affairs which are the sole responsibility of officials. The officials must answer the public's questions in accordance with their legal and religious tasks and by avoiding red tape and bureaucracy.

AFGHAN MUJAHIDIN KILL 40 SOVIETS IN HERAT

GF091541 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 9 Jun 82

[Text] During a clash with the joint Soviet and Afghan Government forces, the Muslim Afghan mujahidin have killed about 40 Soviet soldiers. During the attack, which took place on the Eslam Qal'eh and Herat highway, the Muslim Afghan mujahidin destroyed two Soviet tanks.